

CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL . . .

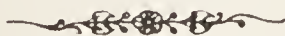
. . . REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1905,

— BY —

**William Duncan, M.B.,**


*District Medical Officer of Health.*



CHESTERFIELD :

BALES & WILDE, Printers, Bookbinders. &c., Gluman Gate.

1906.



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To the

## Clay Cross Urban District Council.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have to place on record my deep regret at the sudden and untimely death of Mr. Kenning, who had occupied the chair ever since the Council was formed some ten years ago. He took a deep interest in everything relating to the Sanitary welfare of the District, and was able, as one of the Council's representatives, to render special service on the North Derbyshire Hospital Committee from the time it was formed till the Hospitals were opened.

The delay in the completion of the Sewage scheme is very disappointing, particularly in view of the Council's utmost endeavours to hasten the work.

The year includes the latter half of a very severe epidemic of Scarlatina, and a smart epidemic of Measles. It was also marked by a very severe depression in the staple trades of the District. Nevertheless it is pleasant to record that not only do the Mortality figures show an improvement on last year's in every instance, but also on the average for the previous ten.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. DUNCAN.

Clay Cross, February, 1906.

# CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics 1895-1905. Comparative Table.

	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	10 Years Average, 1895-1904	Current Year, 1905
Estimated Population .. ..	7988	8050	8113	8175	8238	8300	8363	8425	8487	8550	8268	8450
Birth Rate per 1000 of Population ..	42.7	37.0	38.2	34.6	40.8	34.2	39.3	38.7	38.1	32.0	37.6	36.9
Death Rate per 1000 of Population ..	21.3	17.0	14.9	20.0	15.5	19.9	17.7	22.2	16.8	15.9	18.1	14.9
Death Rate from seven principle Zymotic Diseases per 1000 Population	3.8	4.0	2.3	2.2	4.3	3.1	1.5	4.2	1.2	2.2	2.9	2.0
Death Rate from Phthisis per 1000 of Population ..	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.3	1.5	.6	.6	0.7	.0
Death Rate from Filth Diseases per 1000 of Population ..	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.3	2.7	1.3	0.2	.5	1.2	1.2	.7
Rate of Infant Mortality per 1000 Births ..	233	177	164	207	145	218	170	242	183	171	191	151

# R E P O R T.



## Physical Features and Characters.

Clay Cross Urban District lies on the coal measures in East Derbyshire, and is bounded by the parishes of Ashover, Woodthorpe, North Wingfield, Pilsley and Stretton, all of which belong to the Chesterfield Rural Council. The District measures about half-a-mile from north to south, and two-and-a-half from east to west, and has an area of 1,462 acres.

The ridge running north and south through the District, across its narrowest part, was part of the old Roman road, and the town is situated on and about the ridge. It is dependent entirely on the coal pits and iron works in the neighbourhood, none of which, however, are situate in the District; one consequence of which is that the rateable value is extremely low, £21,337, on which a penny rate produces only £63.

The highest portion of the town (on the ridge) is 500 feet above sea level, falling off on the west to 380 feet at the Press brook which flows south to join the Amber, and on the west, by the Rother, to 325 feet.

## Population and House Accommodation.

The population has shown an increase at each census period, the figures for the last five decades being as under:—

1861	...	...	...	...	...	3,501
1871	...	...	...	...	...	4,102
1881	...	...	...	...	...	6,879
1891	...	...	...	...	...	7,727
1901	...	...	...	...	...	8,348

The actual population varies greatly from time to time according to the condition of the Coal trade, as many as 60 houses standing empty on occasion, while during a boom every one is occupied and many of them accommodating two small families. During 1906 there were on an average 1690 occupied houses, which on the basis of five to a house, gives an estimated population of 8,450.



The majority of the people are housed in brick cottages about 252 of which belong to the Clay Cross Company.

The old property is built chiefly in rows or yards, with open drains along the front or back of the cottages, and a water supply common to several houses. Drains are disconnected.

In the newer cottages there is usually a scullery or back kitchen extra, separate water supply and paved yards. The paving of yards in the new property is not insisted on, though very desirable.

Plans of all new buildings are submitted to the Council and while under erection are under the supervision of the Surveyor. Plans for eight new houses were passed in 1905, and of these five have been built.

As there has been, during the past year, more than sufficient accommodation for the population, advantage has been taken of the opportunity to demolish some old houses, and to have other old property much improved and put in good repair.

## **Sewage and Drainage.**

The new Sewage Scheme, which has been the subject of much comment in the Reports for the past five years, is now nearing completion. The Danesmoor Contract should have been finished in October, 1905, and the Bacon Springs Contract in January, 1906, but the Contractors are still waiting for the filtering media. The Engineer for the scheme is Mr. Harry W. Taylor, of Newcastle. Unfortunately the Council and Mr. Taylor have not always been able to see eye to eye, and the progress of the work has suffered in consequence.

Instead of five outfalls as formerly, three of which were very indifferent, the new scheme provides for two outfalls, one on either side of the ridge previously mentioned, discharging into the Press brook and the Rother respectively.

The Council have had to meet several claims owing to their being compelled to discharge crude sewage into the streams during the progress of the work, but now, although the filter media is not settled, the sewage is being treated on the land, and a very satisfactory effluent is being obtained.

## **House Refuse and Excrement Disposal.**

Very few water closets are in use, nearly all the cottages being provided with privy middens. The water supply in the past was only sufficient for household use, so the question of

water carriage of excrement could not have been pressed if the Council had wished it. The introduction of W.C.'s is now being encouraged, and most of the new houses are being provided with them.

The cleaning of the privies and the ashpits is done, partly by the Council, and partly by contract with the local farmers. The work is performed as early in the day as possible and there are not many complaints as to the manner in which it is carried out.

## **Water Supply.**

The Council owns the Water Works, having purchased the original supply from the Waterworks Company, and increased it since, first by laying down a fresh set of mains, and latterly by putting down a borehole on the gathering ground. The original supply was spring water (from Woferly spriags) and upland surface water from an extensive gathering ground with a few scattered farms, producing 80,000 gallons a day. This was passed through filter beds. The new supply got from the borehole at a depth of some 200 feet, produced at first some 65,000 gallons per day, but this has fallen now to 45,000. The quality of the water is good, the principal impurities being Iron,  $\frac{1}{4}$  grain to the gallon, and Lime (temporary hardness 13.3, permanent 10.3; total 23.6 per 100,000). The iron gives it a turbid appearance on standing, if the sample is collected before the metal has had time to oxidise and settle, and in order to clear it thoroughly a set of filters are being put down. This borehole water, with the water from Woferly springs, will, it is estimated be sufficient for the ordinary supply of the district as at present, and arrangements are made for the shutting off entirely the upland surface water so that the District will be provided with a supply perfectly free from any possibility of organic impurity, with a large reserve to draw on in time of necessity.

## **Lodging Houses.**

The four lodging houses in the town are ample for all normal requirements, indeed, during the past year they have not been very well filled. There has been no cause for complaint with the manner in which they are kept. The Bye-laws regulating the Lodging Houses were passed in 1895. Plans for a new Lodging House were passed during the year, but in the depressed condition of trade it was not proceeded with.

## **Slaughter Houses**

The public Slaughter House which has been proposed from time to time has not materialised. The existing ones are

usually attached to the butchers' shops, and are kept in good condition. One application for license was received but not entertained. Licenses are renewed annually in January.

### **Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.**

Most of the milk is sold direct from the farmers' carts, quite a number of which come from the surrounding parishes. The cowsheds in the district are clean and well kept, but are short of cubic space.

### **Factories and Workshops and Bakehouses.**

There are seven factories and 35 workshops, including three retail bakehouses. The factories are chiefly in connection with Butchers' Shops and Woodyards. Two printing shops have been opened during the year. The bulk of the workshops are dressmakers. There was only one occasion to interfere in any of them during the year.

### **Nuisances.**

The Sanitary Inspector served some 308 informal notices to abate various nuisances, and in six cases legal notices had to be served before the desired result was obtained.

Complaint has repeatedly been made, and with reason, of the state of the roads which have been opened by the contractors laying the sewage mains. There was very little metal on the roads when the contractors began, and the wet weather caused the clay to come to the surface in many places, making the highway more like a quagmire than a made road. The roads are not yet out of the hands of the contractors, but it will be the duty of the Council to put all the roads in proper repair as soon as the contractors are freed from their liability.

### **Infectious Diseases.**

#### **Notification :**

The annual figures for Notifiable diseases, viz. : Smallpox, cholera, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, scarlatina, typhus, enteric, relapsing, continued or puerperal fever since 1900 have been :

1900	...	...	83
1901	...	...	34
1902	...	...	21
1903	...	...	14
1904	...	...	222
1905	...	...	90



The high figure for 1904 was accounted for by the severe epidemic of scarlatina, which was responsible for 201 cases, and which was still at its height when 1905 came in. However, the numbers showed a steady decline from the commencement of the year, as under :—

Jan. 37 fresh cases	Feb. 15 fresh cases	March 9 fresh cases
Apl. 9 „	May 3 „	June 2 „

The totals for the various diseases for the year were :

Small-pox	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	10
Scarlatina	...	...	78
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1
			—
			90

### Isolation :

The North Derbyshire Isolation Hospitals were opened in the first week of 1905, and we were able to send there a number of the worst cases of scarlatina, and those whose accommodation was insufficient, or likely to cause the spread of the disease.

In all, 22 patients were able to take advantage of the Isolation Hospitals, either at Morton or Dronfield, and the single case of small-pox went to Spital. For their accommodation the Council is charged at the rate of 14s. per week (originally it was 21s. per week, but chiefly through the efforts of the Clay Cross representatives on the Hospital Committee, it was reduced to the present figure, viz., 14s.) This is in addition to the general charge of Hospital Maintenance, which the district bears proportionately with the other districts served by the Hospitals. The question of recovering the cost from the parents of individual patients has been discussed, but in view of the difficulties in the way it was decided not to ; and so fall into line with the other Councils in the neighbourhood. There were no prosecutions for exposure during the year, but severe cautions had to be administered on a few occasions, where through ignorance or neglect more than usual risk was being run,

### Disinfection :

This is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, or under his supervision and to his satisfaction. Disinfectants are supplied by the Council to all who are unable to procure them. Kill-germ Fluid. Chloride of Lime, Carbolic Acid, and Sulphuric Acid are used.

**Smallpox :**

There was but one case during the year. The disease was contracted most probably in Chesterfield (where there were several cases at the time.) Fortunately I was passing when the case was first suspected, proceeded to the patient's house, confirmed the diagnosis, and had him off Penmore in less than three hours from his first being seen. The contacts were regularly inspected, but no fresh case occurred.

**Erysipelas (10 cases—no death):**

Of these. two cases were in Danesmoor, and eight in Clay Cross. Four of the patients were connected with meat shops and slaughter-houses.

**Scarlatina (78 cases—5 deaths):**

As stated in the report for last year, Scarlatina became epidemic in Danesmoor. Clay Cross was attacked, the epidemic there reaching its height in December, 1904/January, 1905, just when the Isolation Hospital was opened. Then, as shewn on the preceding page, the disease gradually subsided, till the district was perfectly clear at Midsummer. A few isolated cases occurred in the Autumn, two of which were without proper accommodation at home and were sent to the Hospital.

**Enteric Fever:**

I am pleased to report that there were no notifications of this disease during the year, and only three the year before.

**Measles (6 deaths):**

In the Spring, just when we were beginning to look for the end of the Scarlatina, the district was visited by a smart epidemic of Measles, affecting chiefly the very young children. The Infant School in Clay Cross was closed from the 4th April till after the Easter Holidays, but the distribution of the disease was so widespread that, after the holidays, instead of opening, it was found necessary to close all the elementary schools in Clay Cross and Danesmoor from May 1st to the 14th.

**Midwives Act, 1902.**

The Register of Midwives under the above Act is now complete, seven being enrolled from the Clay Cross Urban District. The administration of the Act for Derbyshire is undertaken by the County Council and the Health Officials of the local Councils throughout the County.

## Statistics for the Year.

### Population :

Following the recommendation of the County Medical Officer of Health, this has been estimated from the number of inhabited houses, reckoning five to a house ; the estimated population being 8,450.

### Births :

160 boys, 152 girls, total 312 ; giving a birth rate of 36·9 per 1,000 per annum.

### Deaths :

126, including those belonging to the district who died in Institutions outside, giving a rate of 14·9 per 1,000 per annum.

### Zymotic Deaths :

Measles, 6 ; Scarlatina, 5 ; Diarrhœa, 6 ; total 17 ; equal to a rate of 2·0 per 1,000 per annum.

### Filth Diseases (Diarrhœa and Enteric Fever) :

Six deaths, all from diarrhœa, giving a rate of ·7 per 1,000 per annum.

### · Infant Mortality (Deaths under 12 months) :

47 children under 12 months died during the year ; 312 were born, which gives a mortality rate of 151 per 1,000 births.



L.G.B.      TABLE I.  
CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT.  
FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

Year.	Popula- tion es- timated to middle of each year.	Births.		Death under 1 Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages. Total.		Deaths in Public Insti- tutions in the District.	Deaths of non-residents in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents in Public Institutions beyond District.	Deaths at all Ages. Nett.	
		Num- ber.	Rate *	Num- ber,	Rate per 1000 Births regis- tered,	Num- ber.	Rate *				Num- ber.	Rate *
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	7988	339	42·7	79	233	170	21·3	..	..	..	170	21·3
1896	8050	298	37·0	53	177	137	17·0	..	..	..	137	17·0
1897	8113	310	38·2	51	164	121	14·9	..	..	..	121	14·9
1898	8175	284	34·6	59	207	164	20·0	..	..	..	164	20·0
1899	8238	337	40·8	49	145	128	15·5	..	..	..	128	15·5
1900	8300	284	34·2	62	218	157	18·9	..	..	8	165	19·9
1901	8363	329	39·3	56	170	140	16·7	..	..	8	148	17·7
1902	8425	326	38·7	79	242	176	20·9	..	..	11	187	22·2
1903	8487	323	38·1	59	183	135	16·0	..	..	8	143	16·8
1904	8550	274	32·0	47	171	129	15·1	..	..	7	136	15·9
Aver- ages for years 1905- 1904	8268	310	37·6	59	191	146	17·7	..	..	8	149	18·1
1905	8450	312	36·9	47	151	119	14·1	..	..	7	126	14·9

\*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the District or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The “Public Institutions” to be taken into account for the purpose of these Tables are those into which are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums.

Area of District in acres }  
(exclusive of area } .....1462  
covered by water) }

Total population at all ages.....8348

Number of Inhabited houses.....1574

Average number of persons per house.....5·3

} At Census  
1901

No Public Institutions in the district.

Institutions outside the district receiving sick and infirm persons from the district:—

1.—Chesterfield Hospital.

4.—Small Pox Hospital, Spital.

2.—Chesterfield Workhouse Hospital.

5.—County Asylum, Mickleover.

3.—Isolation Hospital, Morton.



TABLE III.

## CLAY CROSS URBAN COUNCIL.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1005.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTR. CT.						No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	
Small-pox .. ..	1				1		1
Cholera .. ..	Nil						
Diphtheria .. ..	Nil						
Membranous croup	Nil						
Erysipelas .. ..	10				2	8	
Scarlet Fever ..	78		36	36	6		22
Typhus Fever ..							
Enteric Fever ..	Nil						
Relapsing Fever ..	Nil						
Continued Fever ..	Nil						
Puerperal Fever ..	1					1	
Plague .. ..	Nil						
Totals ..	90		36	36	9	9	23

Isolation Hospitals.— Small-pox at Spital, in Chesterfield Rural District.

Do.                      Scarlatina at Morton, in Chesterfield Rural District.

TABLE IV.  
CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.  1	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or non- "Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages. 2	Under 1 3	1 and under 5 4	5 and under 15 5	15 and under 25 6	25 and under 65 7	65 and upwards 8	
Small-pox .. ..								No Public Institutions in this District.
Measles .. ..	6	2	4					
Scarlet Fever .. ..	5		5					
Whooping-cough .								
Diphtheria and Mem- braneous Croup ..								
Croup .. ..	1		1					
Fever { Typhus ..								
{ Enteric ..								
{ Other continued								
Epidemic Influenza .	2		1				1	
Cholera .. ..								
Plague .. ..								
Diarrhœa .. ..	6		6					
Enteritis .. ..	1					1		
Puerperal Fever ..								
Erysipelas .. ..								
Other Septic Diseases								
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)								
Other Tubercular Diseases	6	3	2			1		
Cancer, Malignant Diseases	6					4	2	
Bronchitis .. ..	11	6	1			2	2	
Pneumonia .. ..	4		2	1			1	
Pleurisy .. ..	1					1		
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1		1					
Alcoholism .. ..								
Cirrhosis of Liver } ..	2					2		
Veneral Diseases ..	2	2						
Premature Birth ..	11	11						
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	3	3						
Heart Diseases ..	3				1	2		
Accidents .. ..	2			1		1		
Suicides .. ..								
Senile Decay .. ..	17					3	14	
All other causes ..	36	14	3		2	9	8	
All causes ..	126	47	20	2	3	26	28	

TABLE V.  
CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CASES.	{	Certified .. ..	..	9	4	3	2	18	1	3		4	2	2	4	1	3	3	1	42
		Uncertified .. ..	..	4				4	1											5
Common Infectious Diseases.	{	Small-pox .. ..	..																	
		Chicken-pox .. ..	..																	
		Measles .. ..	..														1			2
		Scarlet Fever .. ..	..																	
		Diphtheria: Croup ..	..																	
		Whooping Cough ..	..																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{	Diarrhœa, all forms	..							2		1	2					1		6
		Enteritis	..																	
		(not Tuberculous)	{																	
Wasting Diseases.	{	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	}																	
		Premature Birth .. ..	..	7	2	1	1	11												11
		Congenital Defects ..	..	2	1			3												3
		Injury at Birth .. ..	..	2				2												2
		Want of Breast-milk	..																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	{	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	}	1			1	2	2		2		2		1					7
		Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..																1	1
		Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	}															1		1
		Other Tuberculous Disease	}												1					1
		Erysipelas .. ..	..																	
		Syphilis .. ..	..			2		2												2
		Rickets .. ..	..									1								1
		Meningitis	..																	
		(not Tuberculous)	}																	
		Convulsions .. ..	..	1	1			2							1			1		4
		Bronchitis .. ..	..							1						2		1	1	1
		Laryngitis .. ..	..																	
Pneumonia .. ..	..																			
Suffocation, overlaying	..																			
Other Causes .. ..	..																			
Totals .. ..				13	4	3	2	22	2	3		4	2	2	4	1	3	3	1	47

Population, estimated to middle of 1905 .. 8,450

Births in the Year { legitimate } not classified in Returns 312  
                                  { illegitimate }

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages .. .. 126



SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Name of District: Clay Cross Urban  
 Area: 1467 acres.  
 Population:  
 No. of Houses (estimated): 1757.  
 Name of Inspector:  
 Thomas Gulliver Griffin.  
 Qualification: Cert. San. Inst.

	Drainage.						Closets & Ashpits.					Totals.					Precautions taken by Inspector against Infectious Disease, the Sale of Adulterated Food and Drugs and Unsouad Meat, and under the Canal Boats Act.
	No disconnection of Waste Pipe.	Defective Traps, Inlets and Drains.	Drains obstructed.	Insanitary Privies and Ashpits.	Insufficient Closet Accommodation.	Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s	Defective Water Closets.	Surface of Courts and Yards.	Haves Spouts and Down Spouts.	Urinals defective.	Water Supply.	Offensive accumulations	Animals improperly kept	Pigsties.	Smoke Nuisances.	Overcrowding.	Foul condition of houses
Informal notices served by Inspector	13	45	77	105	1	10	4	15	2	3		9	6	4	7	1	6308
Legal notices served by Authority	..											9	6				615
Nuisances abated	13	39	77	102	1	10	4	11	2	3		9	6	4	7	1	5294

Dwelling-Houses.										Dairies and Cowsheds.			Bakehouses.			Slaughter-Houses.			Offensive Trades.			Common Lodging Houses.			Workshops.			Total Number of Inspections made.
Number Inspected.	Informal notice to Repair Houses.	Number of Houses Repaired.	Reported as Unfit for habitation.	Legal Notices to Close Houses.	Number of Houses Closed.	Number of Infected Houses.	Number Disinfected.	Inspections of Work in Progress.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices served for infringement of Bye-Laws.		
?	19	13	6	..	3	66	66	237	42	29	..	3	03	1	16	52	6	..	18	..	4	31	..	32	17	1	414	

Signed, THOMAS G. GRIFFIN.

February 8th, 1906.